

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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## ***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA***

*San Diego, California*

*United States Attorney  
Karen P. Hewitt*

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*For Immediate Release*

### **NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** - March 3, 2008

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Raul Rivas was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego by United States District Judge Larry A. Burns based on his conviction for federal firearms violations. Judge Burns sentenced Rivas to serve 36 months in custody followed by a three-year term of supervised release.

According to court records, Raul Rivas was previously convicted of attempted second-degree robbery, with special circumstances for using a firearm during the commission of the crime, by a California state court in January 1998. In connection with his guilty plea on March 3, 2008, Rivas admitted to being a felon in possession of a firearm and to illegally possessing a Cobray, 9 millimeter, semi-automatic handgun, with an obliterated serial number, and two large capacity magazines with 9 millimeter semi-automatic ammunition.

The case is part of the Justice Department's Project Safe Neighborhoods, which is a nationwide commitment to reduce gun crime in America. The case stems from an investigation conducted by officers from the Chula Vista Police Department and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Explosives that arose out of a routine traffic stop on August 2, 2007.

**DEFENDANT**

Raul Rivas

**Case Number:**

07CR2532-LAB

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1) - Felon in Possession of a Firearm

**AGENCIES**

Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Chula Vista Police Department